

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please incorporate the following amendments to claims 1, 16, 29 and 38 of the above-referenced application. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121, a claim listing including the status and text of all claims to the extent required (and as currently amended) appears below. In making these amendments, no new matter is entered.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for modeling the performance of a facility, in relation to resource utilization of such facility, comprising the steps of:

assigning a predefined template to a facility to be modeled, said predefined template including default facility attribute data;

obtaining resource utilization data for such facility;

wherein selected of said facility attribute data and said resource utilization data is defined relative to instances, said instances established by points in time when such data is either created or updated, whereby defining said data relative to instances establishes how such data changes over time; and

normalizing such resource utilization data **for selected of said instances** based on said predefined template; **and**

providing the normalized resource utilization data in the form of a report.

2. (Original) The method for modeling the performance of a facility, in relation to resource utilization of such facility as in claim 1, further comprising the step of creating an attributes catalog, wherein said attributes catalog comprises selected of user-defined and system-defined attributes.

3. (Original) The method for modeling the performance of a facility, in relation to resource utilization of such facility as in claim 2, further comprising the step of using a template editor to assign said attributes to a facility template.

4. (Original) The method for modeling the performance of a facility, in relation to resource utilization of such facility as in claim 2, wherein said attributes catalog is maintained in a predetermined electronic storage.

5. (Original) The method for modeling the performance of a facility, in relation to resource utilization of such facility as in claim 2, further including a system level process, not accessible to a user, which reclassifies a user-defined attribute as a system-defined attribute whenever a predetermined percentage of users have added such user-defined attribute to the attributes catalog.

6. (Original) The method for modeling the performance of a facility, in relation to resource utilization of such facility as in claim 1, wherein said normalizing step is activated by selected of the following events:

- (a) a user update of a facility model by modifying facility attribute values to reflect changes to said attribute values;
- (b) the demand of a user; and
- (c) the elapse of a predetermined period of time.

7. (Original) The method for modeling the performance of a facility, in relation to resource utilization of such facility as in claim 1, further comprising the step of estimating facility attribute data and facility resource utilization data for any period of time in the past.

8. (Original) The method for modeling the performance of a facility, in relation to resource utilization of such facility as in claim 1, further comprising the step of obtaining said resource utilization data and facility attribute data for two or more facilities.

9. (Original) The method for modeling the performance of a facility, in relation to resource utilization of such facility as in claim 8, further comprising the step of aggregating said resource utilization data and said facility attribute data, said data selected according to user defined criteria for a user defined group of facilities.

10. (Original) The method for modeling the performance of a facility, in relation to resource utilization of such facility as in claim 8, wherein said facility attribute data and resource utilization data include the aggregate sum of said data for two or more facilities.

11. (Original) The method for modeling the performance of a facility, in relation to resource utilization of such facility as in claim 1, further comprising the step of comparing said normalized resource utilization data for a user defined group of facilities.

12. (Original) The method for modeling the performance of a facility, in relation to resource utilization of such facility as in claim 11, further comprising the step of benchmarking said facilities based on said comparing step.

13. (Original) The method for modeling the performance of a facility, in relation to resource utilization of such facility as in claim 1, further comprising the step of presenting said data in the form of one of historical reports and real-time reports.

14. (Original) The method for modeling the performance of a facility, in relation to resource utilization of such facility as in claim 1, wherein said resource utilization data is selected from the resources of energy, water, natural gas and oil.

15. (Original) The method for modeling the performance of a facility, in relation to resource utilization of such facility as in claim 1, wherein said modeling method and said resource utilization data are provided to a customer via intercommunicating electronic media.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, and comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities, comprising the steps of:

creating an attributes catalog wherein said attributes catalog comprises selected of user-defined attributes and system-defined attributes;

assigning attributes to a template selected of user-defined or system-defined templates;

assigning selected of said templates to a facility to be modeled;

obtaining resource utilization data for such facility;

normalizing such resource utilization data based on said predefined template, said normalizing step performed for different points in time when selected of said user-defined attributes and system-defined attributes are created or changed; and

comparing selected of said resource utilization data so as to benchmark each facility based on said comparing.

17. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, and comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities as in claim 16, further comprising the step of using a template editor to assign selected of said attributes to a facility template.

18. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, and comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities as in claim 17, further comprising the step of estimating facility attribute data and facility resource utilization data for any period of time in the past.

19. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, and comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities as in claim 17, further comprising the step of aggregating said resource utilization data and facility attribute data, said data selected according to user defined criteria for a user defined group of facilities.

20. (Original) The method for modeling the performance of a facility, in relation to resource utilization of such facility as in claim 16, wherein said normalizing step is activated by selected of the following events:

- (a) a user update of a facility model by modifying facility attribute values to reflect changes to said attribute values;
- (b) the demand of a user; and
- (c) the elapse of a predetermined period of time.

21. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, and comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities as in claim 16, further comprising the step of using a facility editor to assign selected of said templates to a facility.

22. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, and comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities as in claim 16, further comprising the step of obtaining resource utilization data and for obtaining facility attribute data for two or more facilities.

23. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, and comparing resource utilization efficiency of

such facilities as in claim 22, wherein said facility attribute data and resource utilization data include the aggregated sum of said data from two or more facilities.

24. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, and comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities as in claim 16, comprising the step of presenting said data in the form of one of historical reports and real-time reports.

25. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, and comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities as in claim 16, further including a system level process, not accessible to a user, which reclassifies a user-defined attribute as a system-defined attribute whenever a predetermined percentage of users have added such user-defined attribute to the attributes catalog.

26. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, and comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities as in claim 16, wherein said attributes catalog is maintained in predetermined electronic storage.

27. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, and comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities as in claim 16, wherein said resource utilization data is selected from resources of energy, water, natural gas and oil.

28. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, and comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities as in claim 16, wherein said modeling method and said resource utilization data are provided to a customer via intercommunicating electronic media.

29. (Currently Amended) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities, and generating reports in a user defined format, comprising the steps of:

creating an attributes catalog wherein said attributes catalog comprises selected of user-defined attributes and system-defined attributes;

using a template editor to assign attributes to a template selected of user-defined or system-defined templates;

using a facility editor to define instances where selected of said user-defined attributes and system-defined attributes are created or updated and to assign selected of said templates to a facility to be modeled;

obtaining resource utilization data for such facility;

normalizing such resource utilization data for selected of said instances based on said predefined template;

comparing selected of said resource utilization data so as to benchmark each facility based on said comparing; and

generating one of historical and real-time reports, the data contained in such reports selected from facility modeling data, facility resource utilization data, and facility benchmarking data.

30. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities, and generating reports in a user defined format as in claim 29, further comprising the step of estimating facility attribute data and facility resource utilization data for any period of time in the past.

31. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities, and generating reports in a user defined format as in claim 29, further comprising the step of obtaining said resource utilization data and facility attribute data for two or more facilities.

32. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities, and generating reports in a user defined format as in claim 31, further comprising the step of aggregating said resource utilization data and facility attribute data, said data selected according to user defined criteria for a user defined group of facilities.

33. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities, and generating reports in a user defined format as in claim 31, wherein said resource utilization data and said facility attribute data includes the aggregated sum of said data from two or more facilities.

34. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities, and generating reports in a user defined format as in claim 29, wherein said attributes catalog is maintained in predetermined electronic storage.

35. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities, and generating reports in a user defined format as in claim 29, further including a system level process, not accessible to a user, which reclassifies a user-defined attribute as a system-defined attribute whenever a predetermined percentage of users have added such user-defined attribute to the attributes catalog.

36. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities, and generating reports in a user defined format as in claim 29, wherein said resource utilization data is selected from resources of energy, water, natural gas and oil.

37. (Original) A method for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, comparing resource utilization efficiency of such facilities, and generating reports in a user defined format as in claim 29, wherein said modeling method and said resource utilization data are provided to a customer via intercommunicating electronic media.

38. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities, comprising:

a facility editor for assigning a predefined template to a facility to be modeled, said predefined template including default facility attribute data defined for selected instances that are established by points in time when selected of said attribute data is created or changed;

data retrieval means for obtaining resource utilization data for such facility; and
data normalization means for normalizing said resource utilization data based on
said predefined template; and

**means for comparing selected of the normalized resource utilization data
so as to benchmark each facility based on said comparing.**

39. (Original) An apparatus for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to
resource utilization of such facilities as in claim 38, further comprising an attributes
catalog editor for performing functions selected of:

- (i) creating new facility attributes;
- (ii) adding new facility attributes to said attributes catalog; and
- (iii) deleting user-defined attributes from said attributes catalog.

40. (Original) An apparatus for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to
resource utilization of such facilities as in claim 39, further comprising data storage
means for storing said attributes catalog.

41. (Original) An apparatus for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to
resource utilization of such facilities as in claim 38, further comprising means for
reclassifying a user-defined attribute as a system-defined attribute whenever a
predetermined percentage of users have added such user-defined attribute to said
attributes catalog.

42. (Original) An apparatus for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to
resource utilization of such facilities as in claim 38, further comprising a template editor
for assigning said facility attributes, contained in said facility attributes catalog, to a
facility template.

43. (Original) An apparatus for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to
resource utilization of such facilities as in claim 42, further comprising means for
estimating facility attribute data and facility resource utilization data, for any period of
time in the past.

44. (Original) An apparatus for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to
resource utilization of such facilities as in claim 38, wherein said data retrieval means is

further operative for obtaining said resource utilization data and said facility attribute data for two or more facilities.

45. (Original) An apparatus for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities as in claim 44, further comprising means for aggregating said resource utilization data and facility attribute data.

46. (Original) An apparatus for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities as in claim 45, further comprising means for aggregating said facility attribute data and said resource utilization data, said data selected according to user defined criteria for a user defined group of facilities.

47. (Original) An apparatus for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities as in claim 38, further comprising means for comparing normalized resource utilization data for the purpose of ranking the resource utilization of each facility based on such comparing.

48. (Original) An apparatus for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities as in claim 38, further comprising means for generating one of historical and real-time reports of selected data.

49. (Original) An apparatus for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities as in claim 48, further comprising electronic media means for supplying customer access to selected of said:

- (i) predefined template;
- (ii) resource utilization data retrieval means;
- (iii) data normalization means;
- (iv) default facility attribute data; and
- (v) historical and real-time reports.

50. (Original) An apparatus for creating dynamic facility models, in relation to resource utilization of such facilities as in claim 38, wherein said resource utilization data is selected from the resources energy, water, natural gas and oil.